

Urban District Council of Glyncorrwg.



THE  
ANNUAL REPORT  
FOR 1940  
OF THE  
Medical Officer of Health  
(Dr. J. M. TAYLOR).



PORT TALBOT :  
D. W. Jones, Printer, Courtland Place

1942.





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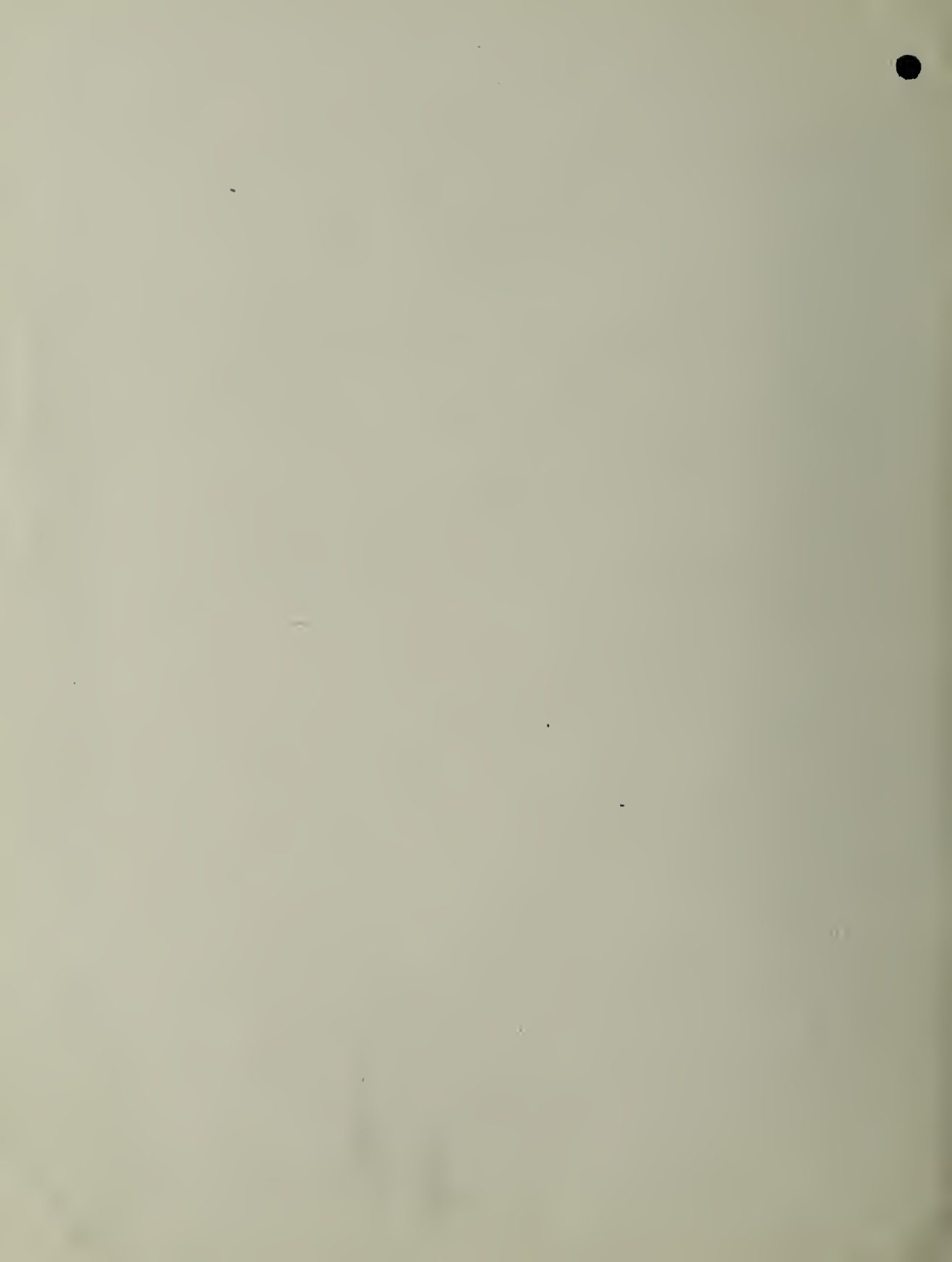


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# Glyncorrwg Urban District Council, 1940

*Chairman*—Councillor D. MORRIS, J.P., Abergwynfi.

*Vice-Chairman*—Councillor W. T. BROWN, Abergwynfi.

Councillor WM. BOWEN, Abergwynfi.	Councillor E. C. HOPKINS, Duffryn Afan.
Councillor H. FIELD, Abergwynfi.	Councillor S. J. MORGAN, Glyncorrwg.
Councillor A. H. MORGAN, Abergwynfi.	Councillor W. LEWIS, Glyncorrwg.
Councillor D. WILLIAMS, Abergwynfi.	Councillor J. THOMAS, Glyncorrwg.
Alderman Sir WM. JENKINS, K.B.E., J.P., M.P., Cymmer Afan.	Councillor G. WILLIAMS, Glyncorrwg.
Councillor W. LEWIS, Cymmer.	Councillor E. PRICE, Cymmer.
Councillor D. T. HOPKINS, J.P., Cymmer.	Councillor F. MARCHANT, Cymmer.

## CHAIRMEN AND COMMITTEES.

*Chairman of Maternity and Child Welfare Committee*—Councillor W. BOWEN, Abergwynfi.

### *Co-opted Members (Ladies) :*

Mrs. H. FIELD, 49, Jersey Road, Abergwynfi; Mrs. RICHARDS, 56, High Street, Abergwynfi;  
Mrs. J. WILLIAMS, 4, Alban Terr., Abercregan; Mrs. MURREL, 1, Wern Terrace, Cymmer;  
Mrs. EVANS, 49, Norton Terrace, Glyncorrwg; Mrs. LEWIS, 10, Norton Terrace, Glyncorrwg.

### *General Purposes Committee :*

*Chairman*—Councillor E. PRICE, Cymmer.

*Housing Committee : Chairman*—Councillor A. H. MORGAN, Abergwynfi.

*Finance Committee : Chairman*—Councillor A. H. MORGAN, Abergwynfi.

## OFFICIALS.

<i>Clerk to the Council</i> .....	Mr. T. D. WINDSOR WILLIAMS.
<i>Rating and Valuation Officer</i> .....	Mr. T. W. JENKINS.
<i>Surveyor and Engineer</i> .....	Mr. HENRY WALSH.
<i>Asst. Surveyor and Engineer</i> .....	Mr. T. J. WALKER.
<i>Treasurer and Accountant</i> .....	Mr. S. HERAPATH.
<i>Sanitary Inspector</i> .....	Mr. JOHN TATE, San. Inspector, Cert. Royal San. Institute and San. Inspector's Exam. Joint Board; Meat Inspector Cert. Royal San. Institute.
<i>Housing Rent Collector</i> .....	Mr. DANIEL THOMAS.
<i>Gas Collector</i> .....	Mr. SAM FUGE.
<i>Health Visitor</i> .....	Nurse E. RICHARD, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.
<i>Medical Officer of Health</i> .....	Dr. J. M. TAYLOR.
<i>General Clerk</i> .....	Mr. R. G. DAYSON.

# Glyncorrwg Urban District Council.

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Cymmer,  
Port Talbot,  
February 2nd, 1942.

**To the Chairman and Members of the Glyncorrwg Urban District Council.**

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GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit to you for your consideration the Annual Report of Public Health services in your area for the year 1940.

The contents and arrangements of the report follow the requirements of Circular 1961 (Wales).

The Collieries in the area worked at full pressure during the first half of the year, and there was an insistent demand for more colliery workers.

The collapse of France, however, had an immediate effect on employment in the area. The Ocean Colliery, Abergwynfi and the Duffryn Rhondda Colliery were practically closed down and a large number of men were thrown out of work. Other pits in the area were also affected, and much short time was worked.

The position was relieved to some extent by the transfer of workers to other coal producing areas, and by men finding work in new factories and plants in the neighbourhood

**The Birthrate**, 25.4 is higher than last year. The live birthrate is considerably higher than the average for smaller towns in England and Wales. In the village of Glyncorrwg the birthrate has increased for the year. Many mothers prefer to go to Penrhiewtyn Hospital for confinement, observing that the lying in period is almost as cheap, and that they are free from domestic worries while in hospital. During the year 38 mothers were confined in Penrhiewtyn Hospital, and one in Maesteg Maternity Hospital. Some of these were cases of difficult confinement.

## **Government Evacuation Scheme.**

The Glyncorrwg Urban District is scheduled as a Reception Area, and on June 2nd and 25th we received the first parties of unaccompanied children from the Medway towns.

These were followed by parties of mothers and children from the London Boroughs, and by the end of the year, the number of persons billeted in the area under the Evacuation Scheme totalled 839.

These children were examined on arrival and were found to be in normal health, with a few exceptions of "shelter sores."

### **Housing.**

There were no new houses constructed. 83 houses were inspected for defects during the year, and 231 inspections were made for that purpose, and repairs were carried out in 54 of these houses. The general state of repair of the dwelling-houses in the area is fair. There is a lack of skilled labour to carry out repairs. Much credit is due to the Sanitary Inspector for his tact and zeal in getting all repairs done during the year. There were no house owners prosecuted for abatement of nuisances, owing to disrepair.

### **Water Supply.**

As a result of the discontinuance of the Avon Hill source of supply which occurred during 1939, certain parts of the district which are at a higher level received, during 1940, an intermittent supply of water. These districts are Scotch Street, Abergwynfi, some houses on the Croeserw site, Cymmer, and some houses on the Duffryn site.

The position at Scotch Street was greatly relieved by the piping of a temporary supply from a spring on Graig-y-Gelli.

Negotiations are proceeding for the acquisition of a new source of supply from the Old East Level, Avon Hill, Abergwynfi. When these works are completed, it is anticipated that the whole of the district will have an ample supply of water.

Plans and estimates for the provision of adequate filter beds at the Glyncoirwg High and Low Level Reservoirs were submitted to the Ministry of Health for their approval during the year, and it is hoped that the work will be proceeded with at an early date.

More care has been taken to clean out the filter beds at the High Level Reservoir, Gwynfi Brook, and fresh sand has been put in.

Half the drinking water is not filtered. The water supply which comes from Glyncoirwg is unsatisfactory. The condition of the reservoirs is the same as in my Report of last year. There were six samples of water analysed during the year, and without exception, the reports of the analyses were satisfactory. This condition of affairs is fortunate as there is only one proper filter and one partial filter for four intakes to supply the area with drinking water.



### Post Mortem Examinations.

Arrangements have been made and facilities provided for performing post mortem examinations in the mortuary at the Isolation Hospital, Cymmer. One post mortem was performed here during the year.

### Maternity and Child Welfare.

No. 26, Villiers Road, Abergwynfi, a large well built house, was acquired during the year 1935 for conversion into a Maternity and Child Welfare Clinic. It was completed and opened during the year 1936. It is in every way a suitable building, and is centrally situated. The attendance at this Clinic is so good that the Doctor has difficulty in finishing his examinations in the hour and a half at his disposal.

During 1939, rooms in the Glyncorrwg Memorial Hall were rented for the purposes of a Maternity and Child Welfare Clinic. The rooms available in this hall are large, damp and cold. In winter, children should not be stripped in this place. There is a suitable site in Glyncorrwg for a proper Clinic to be built and equipped. Arrangements should be made now to take up a suitable sunny site so that a decent building can be constructed when the war will end.

In Abercregan a Clinic has been held monthly since February, 1936, in the Workmen's Institute, and is quite well attended. It is held once every calendar month. The Institute is a very suitable building for the purpose of a Clinic.

### National Milk Scheme.

The Scheme came into operation during the month of August, 1940, and the number of beneficiaries up to end of year were as follows:—

Free Milk .....	770
Milk at 2d. per pint .....	530
Total .....	1,300

For the feeding of infants, dried milk is supplied if preferred.

### Pit Head Baths.

Baths for the workmen in Duffryn Rhondda Colliery have been finished, and workmen with very few exceptions use these facilities. Their usefulness especially where there are two or more workmen in one house and no bath in the house is incalculable. I am of opinion that the men use water too warm for bathing, and do not finish the bath with a cold shower. There are no pit head baths at Nantewlaeth or at South Pits, Glyncorrwg, or Ocean Colliery, Abergwynfi. Many men from Abercregan and Abergwynfi work in these collieries. There are no baths in the 248 Abercregan houses.



## **Swimming Baths.**

A large open-air Swimming Bath close to the Caerau Road in Cymmer was opened during 1939. This, in my opinion, is a satisfactory advance towards the development of good physique in young people in the area. Much more use should be made of this form of recreation and development. Most of the children from the Senior School obtain instruction during the morning session. There are very few objectors among the school children. It is a form of exercise and a method of self-defence, which every child should be encouraged to learn properly. The attendant is a genial instructor, and possesses a life saving certificate.

## **Extension of Council's Activities during 1940.**

There were no further extensions of activities from those described in my last annual report.

## **Infectious Diseases.**

Infectious diseases notified during the year numbered 292. The increase on last year's total of 117 was mainly due to the addition of Chicken Pox and Measles to the list of notifiable infectious diseases. Diphtheria notification decreased by about 50% compared with last year, but there was an increase in the number of cases of Scarlet Fever. Notifications of Pulmonary Tuberculosis were double those of the previous year. Four cases of Cerebro Spinal Fever and two cases of Anterior Poliomyelitis were also notified.

Deaths from Infectious Diseases were:—Tuberculosis 9; Cerebro Spinal Fever 1; Diphtheria 2; Measles 1; Pneumonia 11; Acute Poliomyelitis 1.

## **Isolation Hospital.**

The local hospital is falling into a very deplorable state for want of repairs. It is questionable whether it is worth repairing. It might be useful in case of an air raid in the district.

Arrangements have been made with Port Talbot Borough Council whereby patients suffering from infectious diseases from this area can be admitted to their Isolation Hospital.

## **Planting of Trees.**

In the late autumn of 1937 two rows of young trees were planted on the sides of Coronation Avenue, Cymmer. These trees show signs of development in their new surroundings, and already this particular highway shows signs of being a very attractive avenue once the trees have properly grown. It is a great mistake that no trees have been planted since 1937. Boys are destructive of young trees.

It is desirable that a small scheme should be carried out in each of the villages each year. The slopes below Cynon village on the south side of the valley have been planted with coniferous three year old plants. These villages could be greatly beautified, and the health of the people would benefit by careful planting and careful tending of trees

### **Rats.**

All complaints of rat infestation are investigated, and steps are taken to exterminate these pests. In addition, there was an intensive campaign against them during the first week in November. The very numerous baits laid showed satisfactory results. The most satisfactory bait observed was one made by the Sanitary Inspector himself.

There were 1,059 baits laid during the year in shop premises, sewer manholes, refuse tips, etc.

### **Glyncorrwg Burial Ground.**

I have visited the churchyard at Glyncorrwg on some occasions when graves have been opened close to the North and East boundaries.

I found that the retaining wall of the burying ground is "dry walling," and that the bottom of the graves are on a level with or higher than the back yard or floor of the adjoining houses.

With great respect and in due deference to local sentiment, I am of strong opinion that no body should be allowed to be buried in this burial ground at a distance of less than 30 feet from the North and East boundaries.

This means that a new burial ground is required for the village, unless most burials are done in Cymmer or other suitable burial grounds.

### **War Work.**

**The Council Staff.** These gentlemen have done a very great deal of voluntary work for the general public during the year. The control room in the Council Office has been cared for by one or other of these men every night throughout the year. This means 52 nights of lost rest during the year in addition to their ordinary employment. Furthermore, each of these gentlemen has a responsible position in the local services, being Chief Officers of Air Raid Wardens, Fire Brigade, Rescue and Demolition, Decontamination Food Control, etc. To their great credit they keep cheery and very efficient with it all.

There were 157 air raid warnings during the year, and these gentlemen were always to be found at their posts.

I am much indebted to Mr. Tate for his co-operation throughout the year, and for his help in preparing this Report. I am also much indebted to Miss Richards (Health Visitor), Mr. H. Walsh, Mr. T. W. Jenkins, and Mr. Herapath for their kindness and help throughout the year.

Throughout the year I have continually been seeking the help of Dr. Colston Williams, and have to thank him most sincerely for the great assistance he has unreservedly and unstintingly given.

All the Medical Practitioners in the area have been keen and most loyal in all matters appertaining to public health, and my thanks are due to them for their thorough co-operation.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

**J. M. TAYLOR,**

Medical Officer of Health.



## GENERAL INFORMATION.

The area of the district is 13,925 acres.

The prevailing winds are westerly and south westerly. The valleys are narrow and consequently there is concentration and rapidity of air currents in the district. Trees are very scarce, and shelter is only afforded by the mountains. During the rainy season, the rain is carried up the valleys at such a pace that the most carefully constructed houses are liable to be damp. Heavy rains never cause accumulation of water in the area, but act as a useful adjunct to the sanitation of the district. In February the hedges were covered with ice, and a peculiar icicle formation was seen on every tree and shrub. Telephone wires were broken and power cables pulled down by the weight of ice on the wires.

The district could be considerably beautified by planting and maintaining the growth of various types of trees and flowers. The expense would be small, and in years to come the valley would be clad as it should be.

In some villages, notably Duffryn and Cynon, flowers and gardens are developed to a very high standard. Many allotments are still being intensively cultivated.

### Rainfall for past Ten years.

	Inches
1931 .....	58.49
1932 .....	76.52
1933 .....	52.19
1934 .....	74.08
1935 .....	73.58
1936 .....	65.98
1937 .....	60.02
1938 .....	76.94
1939 .....	81.82
1940 .....	64.65

### DISTRIBUTION, 1940.

	Inches
January .....	5.43
February .....	7.74
March .....	5.61
April .....	4.16
May .....	1.78
June .....	.74
July .....	5.72
August .....	.62

## Distribution 1940.—Continued.

	Inches.
September .....	2.56
October .....	8.85
November .....	13.79
December .....	7.65
Total .....	<u>64.65</u>

The heaviest Rainfall was during the month of November—13.79 inches.

The lightest Rainfall was during the month of August—.62 inches.

**Houses.**

	Total in District.	Occupied	Unoccupied.
Houses .....	1,986	1,963	23
Business Premises used for Dwellings as well as Busi- ness .....	81 (& two Clubs)	13	0
Hotels .....	13	79	2
Farms .....	24	23	1
Lock-up Shops .....	39	25	14

The Council built 282 Houses under the Housing Act, 1919.

The assessable value of the area for year ending December 31st, 1940 :—

	£	s	d
General Rate Purposes .....	30,708	0	0
Sum represented by 1d. Rate .....	111	19	5

**Population.**

The population estimated by the Registrar General for mid-year 1940 was 9,056, and for 30th June, 1939, was 9,473. For the previous year the population was 9,562 (mid-year 1938).

For the year 1931 the census population (mid-year) was 10,208

"	"	1921	"	"	"	"	"	10,772
"	"	1911	"	"	"	"	"	8,689
"	"	1901	"	"	"	"	"	6,452

The employment of the people is almost entirely Coal Mining, or in some occupation associated with the mining industry. Many women and men are finding lucrative employment in the Royal Ordnance Factory, Bridgend. The numbers employed are likely to increase.



There are not many hard ground workers in the area at present, consequently Silicosis is not very common. Workmen are now much more careful to prevent dust absorption when working in headings of high silica content. There were two deaths from Silicosis during the year. The patients had contracted the disease many years previously.

Coal miners in steam coal mines enjoy quite good health, those in house coal collieries, where there is much dampness, are more subject to rheumatism. There are few cases of acute rheumatism, but there is a great deal of chronic rheumatism in middle aged and even in young men.

Electric safety lamps, giving more illumination, less heat, less CO<sup>2</sup> produced and less nystagmus, have been introduced into most of the deep mines in the area. There are not many new cases of nystagmus, undoubtedly due to the introduction of these lamps.

In some collieries in the area there is a great deal of water, and rats are so numerous that workmen have to use their ingenuity to prevent them stealing all their food while they are employed. Rats should be exterminated from collieries because of the danger of transmitting Weil's Disease to the miners. Professional rat catchers, if employed, would greatly reduce these pests and the danger of disease carried by them.

### **Nursing Facilities, Hospitals, etc.**

There is a district nurse in Abergwynfi.

The Swansea General Hospital is used for all emergencies from the area, and very excellent results are obtained, and general satisfaction is expressed by the patients. The waiting list is large, causing, in non-acute cases a delay of months in admission. Acute and urgent cases can always be admitted. Many patients who receive public assistance are admitted to Penrhiewtyn Hospital, and express satisfaction with their treatment, and very excellent results are obtained. This relieves the waiting list for Swansea.

A system of communication of diagnosis, operation and progress, etc., from hospital to medical men in the area is of great help to practitioners.

Both Medical and Surgical cases are admitted, and very numerous consultations and X-Ray photographs are obtained by out-patients from this area.

The X-Ray Apparatus and results of Swansea Hospital are among the very best in the country.

There is a working arrangement between the Swansea Hospital and Penrhiewtyn Hospital, Neath, which allows patients long on the waiting list for admission to Swansea to be admitted to Penrhiewtyn—Swansea Hospital Authorities paying the cost. Operations on school children for tonsils and adenoids are performed in Penrhiewtyn Hospital at a cost of 10/- to the parents. Complicated confinements are not now admitted to Swansea Hospital, but are sent to Penrhiewtyn at a cost of £2. 2s. 0d. per week to the patient. There is a means scale operative. There is a great increase in the number of people being treated at these hospitals.



The workmen pay 2d. per week to the Hospital, and this is deducted from their pay at the Colliery Office. Those not working in collieries may obtain the benefit of Swansea Hospital by paying 8s. 8d. per year.

The St. John's Motor Ambulance, which is stationed at Cymmer, is in constant request to take patients to Swansea Hospital and other such Institutions for consultations, massage, X-Ray Examinations, etc. As many as three journeys are made from the area to Swansea in a day. In case of emergency, e.g., a few accidents occurring simultaneously, or when the local Ambulance is away, a neighbouring Ambulance—generally from Bryn—is easily available. These conveyances are very comfortable and suitable for their purpose. The man in charge of this Ambulance is a most capable driver, and is very obliging, and is a competent man to render first-aid.

There is also a Motor Ambulance stationed at Glyncoirwg, which is maintained by colliery workmen.

There are seven First Aid and Home Nursing Classes carried on very successfully. Most of these Classes have been in continuous existence for over 30 years. Most of the people trained at these Classes are of the very utmost use in the locality, and particularly in mines. The local Companies encourage this work. Recently attendance at these classes has been very good because of the menace of air raids. In Duffryn the young boys and girls form most successful classes in First Aid and Home Nursing. A great number of well trained men and ladies are available for first Aid work in case of an air raid in the district.

## Vital Statistics.

### BIRTHS.

Live Births during the year were:—

	Male.	Female.
Legitimate .....	114	96
Illegitimate .....	4	2
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total .....	118	98
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

### STILLBIRTHS.

	Male.	Female.
Legitimate .....	9	5
Illegitimate .....	—	—
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total .....	9	5
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

Total Births:—230. This gives a birth-rate of 25.4 per 1,000 of population per annum.

The birth-rate of previous years may be compared:—

Year.	No. of Births.	Birth rate per 1,000 population.
1914	351	37.3
1915	342	36.3
1916	338	33.0
1917	276	27.0
1918	324	31.7
1919	317	30.7
1920	372	36.1
1921	349	32.4
1922	314	27.6
1923	312	26.0
1924	344	28.6
1925	317	26.4
1926	282	23.5
1927	259	21.5
1928	238	22.1
1929	245	23.0
1930	242	22.7
1931	234	22.7
1932	215	21.2
1933	220	21.6
1934	203	20.0
1935	236	23.5
1936	197	19.4
1937	208	21.4
1938	193	20.1
1939	181	19.1
1940	230	25.4

The illegitimate birth-rate for the year was .6 per 1,000 of the population.

Birth Rates compared per 1,000 population:—

	1940.	
	Live Births	Still Births.
England and Wales	14.6	0.55
126 County Boroughs and Great Towns (including London)	16.0	0.64
148 Smaller Towns (Population 25,000 to 50,000)	15.7	0.55
London Administrative County	13.7	0.44
Glyncorrwg U.D.	23.8	1.54

The total live births registered within the area, legitimate and illegitimate were distributed as follows:—

Month.	Abergwynfi.	Cymmer.	Glyncorrwg.	Total.
January	3	8	3	14
February	9	7	3	19
March	10	10	1	21

Month.	Abergwynfi.	Cymmer.	Glyncorrwg.	Total.
April	3	5	1	9
May	9	7	1	17
June	3	7	2	12
July	6	4	3	13
August	5	6	5	16
September	11	8	4	23
October	2	4	3	9
November	12	8	3	23
December	7	8	0	15
Total	80	82	29	191

During the year there were born in Penrhiewtyn Hospital—16 from Glyncorrwg; 10 from Abergwynfi; 12 from Cymmer.

There was one birth from Cymmer at the Highbury Nursing Home, Neath.

Most of these were either complicated confinements or cases where pregnancy was not normal, or where home conditions were such that, on medical advice, the mother was advised to go to hospital for confinement. Some were voluntary patients.

### Deaths.

The number of deaths registered in the area during the year was 103; Males—52, Females—51. There were 28 inward transfers—16 males, 12 females.

These inward transfers died in Swansea Hospital, Penrhiewtyn Hospital, Cardiff Royal Infirmary, Parc Gwyllt, Angelton, Sully Hospital, Groeswen Isolation Hospital, Pontardawe, and Cottage Hospital Treherbert.

There were four outward transfers—4 males.

The total deaths therefore were 127. Males 64, Females 63.

The crude death-rate was 14.02 per 1000 population per annum compared with previous years.

1914.	1915.	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.
11.8	14.6	12.8	9.5	13.4	9.9	11.4	10.3
1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.	1929.
11.5	9.1	8.4	8.8	8.7	10.3	10.7	12.0
1930.	1931.	1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.
8.5	11.4	9.8	13.8	10.4	9.2	10.2	11.0
1938.	1939.	1940.					
11.2	11.8	14.02					

Death Rates compared per 1,000 Population.

1940                  1939                  1938                  1937                  1936

	1940	1939	1938	1937	1936
England and Wales .....	14.3	12.1	11.6	12.4	12.1
126 County Boroughs & Great Towns .....	15.8	12.0	11.7	12.5	12.3
148 Smaller Towns, Population 25,000—50,000 at Census 1931 .....	12.8	11.2	11.0	11.9	11.5
London (Administrative County) ....	17.8	11.9	11.4	12.3	12.5
Glyncorrwg U.D. ....	14.0	11.8	11.2	11.0	10.2

The following are the particulars of deaths returned to me by the Registrar for the district during the year 1940, to which 28 transferable deaths have been added—(28 inward transfers):—

	Males.	Females.	Total
Typhoid & Paratyphoid Diseases .....	0	0	0
Cerebro-spinal Fever .....	1	0	1
Scarlet Fever .....	0	0	0
Whooping Cough .....	0	0	0
Diphtheria .....	1	1	2
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System .....	2	6	8
Other forms of Tuberculosis .....	1	0	1
Syphilitic Diseases .....	0	0	0
Influenza .....	2	2	4
Measles .....	0	1	1
Acute Polio-myelitis & Polio-encephalitis .....	0	1	1
Acute Infantile Encephalitis .....	0	0	0
Cancer .....	5	12	17
Diabetes .....	0	0	0
Intra-cranial Vascular Lesions .....	5	6	11
Heart Disease .....	15	8	23
Other Diseases of Circulatory System .....	0	0	0
Bronchitis .....	5	3	8
Pneumonia .....	7	4	11
Other Respiratory Diseases .....	4	0	4
Ulceration of Stomach or Duodenum .....	2	0	2
Diarrhoea (under two years) .....	1	0	1
Appendicitis .....	0	0	0
Other Digestive Diseases .....	2	0	2
Nephritis .....	2	0	2
Puerperal & Post Abort. Sepsis .....	0	0	0
Other Maternal Causes .....	0	4	4
Premature Birth .....	2	2	4
Congenital Malformation, Birth Injuries and Infantile Diseases .....	1	3	4
Suicide .....	0	1	1
Road Traffic Accidents .....	0	2	2
Other Violent Causes .....	3	2	5

	Males.	Females.	Total
All other Causes .....	3	5	8
Total .....	64	63	127

The above Table includes 28 inward transfers. The inward transfers were as follows:—

#### INWARD TRANSFERS.

Silicosis .....	Cymmer	Male, 51 yrs., died West Glamorgan County Hospital.
Diarrhoea (under 2 yrs.) .....	Abergwynfi	Male, 8 mths., died Royal Infirmary, Cardiff.
Influenza .....	Abergwynfi	Male, 37 yrs., died Parc Gwyllt, Coity.
Placenta Praevia .....	Cymmer	Female, 42 yrs., died West Glam. County Hospital.
Uraemia .....	Glyncorrwg	Male, 73 yrs., died Swansea Hospital.
Toxaemia (Carbuncle) .....	Cymmer	Male, 64 yrs., died West Glamorgan County Hospital.
Myocardial Degeneration ...	Blaengwynfi	Male, 76 yrs., died West Glamorgan County Hospital.
Pulmonary Tuberculosis .....	Cymmer	Female, 28 yrs., died West Glam. County Hospital.
Colliery Accident .....	Abergwynfi	Male, 32 yrs., died Swansea Hospital.
Road Accident .....	Cymmer	Female, 54 yrs., died Main Rd., Angelton.
Cerebral Haemorrhage .....	Cymmer	Female, 2 hrs., died West Glam. County Hospital.
Pulmonary Tuberculosis .....	Blaengwynfi	Female, 19 yrs., died Sully Hospital.
Diphtheria .....	Cymmer	Male, 4 yrs., died Groeswen Is'tion Hospital
Toxaemia (due to Scalds) .....	Blaengwynfi	Female, 5 mths., died Swansea Hospital.
Cancer .....	Blaengwynfi	Male, 54 yrs., died Swansea Hospital.
Bronchitis .....	Cymmer	Female, 68 yrs., died Pontardawe.
Cancer .....	Blaengwynfi	Female, 20 yrs., died Cottage, Hospital, Treherbert.
Laryngeal Stenosis .....	Abergwynfi	Female, 6 mths., died West Glam County Hospital.
Road Accident .....	Glyncorrwg	Female, 41 yrs., died West Glam. County Hospital.
Prematurity .....	Glyncorrwg	Male, 2 days, died West Glamorgan County Hospital.
Cerebro-spinal Fever .....	Cymmer	Male, 26 yrs., died Groeswen Is'tion Hospital
Duodenal Ulcer .....	Cymmer	Male, 58 yrs., died Swansea Hospital.
Uraemia .....	Cymmer	Male, 7 mths., died Swansea Hospital.
Nephritis .....	Cymmer	Male, 31 yrs., died Swansea Hospital.
Cirrhosis of the Liver .....	Cymmer	Male, 53 yrs., died West Glamorgan County Hospital.
Toxaemia of Pregnancy .....	Glyncorrwg	Female, 36 yrs., died West Glam. County Hospital.
Acute Rheumatism .....	Abergwynfi	Female, 35 yrs., died West Glam. County Hospital.
Heart Disease .....	Abergwynfi	Male, 20 yrs., died Swansea Hospital.



The following are particulars of deaths notified to me in the area during 1940, and include 28 inward transfers.

**TABLE 1.** Causes of, and ages at Death during 1940.

Causes of Death	Total All Ages	under 1 year	1 & under 2	2 & under 5	5 & under 15	15 & under 25	25 & under 45	45 & under 65	65 & upwards
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebro-spinal Fever .....	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Scarlet Fever .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria .....	2	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System .....	8	—	—	—	—	2	5	1	—
Other Forms of Tuberculosis .....	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Syphilitic Diseases .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Influenza .....	4	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	1
Measles .....	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Polio-myel. & Polio-enceph. ....	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Infantile Encephalitis .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cancer .....	17	—	—	—	—	1	1	10	5
Diabetes .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Intra-cranial Vascular Lesions .....	11	1	—	—	—	—	—	3	7
Heart Disease .....	23	—	—	—	—	1	2	8	12
Other Diseases of Circulatory System .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bronchitis .....	8	—	1	—	—	1	—	1	5
Pneumonia .....	11	1	3	—	—	—	1	3	3
Other Respiratory Diseases .....	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum .....	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
Diarrhoea (under 2 years) .....	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Appendicitis .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Digestive Diseases .....	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Nephritis .....	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—
Puerperal & Post-abort. Sepsis .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Maternal Causes .....	4	—	—	—	—	1	3	—	—
Premature Birth .....	4	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Con. Malformation, Birth Inj., Infant Dis. ....	4	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Suicide .....	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Road Traffic Accidents .....	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—
Other Violent Causes .....	5	1	1	—	—	1	1	1	—
All Other Causes .....	8	1	—	—	—	1	2	2	2
<b>Totals .....</b>	<b>127</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>36</b>



The following are particulars of deaths notified to me in the area during 1939, and include 23 inward transfers.

**TABLE 1.** Causes of, and ages at Death during 1939.

Causes of Death.	Total All Ages.	under 1 yr.	1 & under 2	2 & under 5	5 & under 15	15 & under 25	25 & under 45	45 & under 65	65 & up- wards.
Enteric Fever .....	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Small Pox .....	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles .....	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever .....	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough .....	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Croup .....	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria .....	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Influenza .....	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1
Encephalitis .....	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pulmonary Tuberculosis .....	2	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—
Other Tuberculous Diseases .....	3	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	1
Cancer—Malignant Disease .....	14	—	—	—	—	—	5	6	3
Diabetes .....	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2
Cerebral Haemorrhage .....	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2
Heart Disease .....	30	—	—	—	—	1	5	8	16
Arterio-Sclerosis .....	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	5
Bronchitis .....	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Pneumonia (all forms) .....	6	2	—	—	1	1	1	1	—
Cerebral Thrombosis .....	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hemiplegia .....	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Senile Gangrené of Foot .....	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Injury at Birth .....	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute and Chronic Nephritis .....	4	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	1
Haemorrhage Meningeal Effusion .....	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Generalized Oedema .....	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Congenital Debility, Premature Births, etc. ..	6	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hypostatic Pneumonia .....	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Silicosis .....	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Weil's Disease .....	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Intestinal Obstruction .....	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Uraemia .....	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Major Epilepsy .....	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Acute Rheumatism .....	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
General Anasarca .....	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Pulmonary Congestion .....	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2
Spina Bifida .....	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cystitis .....	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Imbecility Bronchitis .....	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Deaths from Violence or Accidents .....	6	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	2
Spasmodic Croup .....	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Stasis .....	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Other Defined Diseases .....	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Causes Ill-defined or Unknown .....	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Senility .....	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
<b>Totals .....</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>42</b>

## Tuberculosis.

Particulars of new cases of Tuberculosis and of deaths from the disease in the area during 1940 are given in the following Table:—

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.		Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Under 1 year .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 and under 5 .....	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
5 " " 15 .....	—	1	1	—	—	—	1	—
15 " " 25 .....	4	2	1	—	—	2	—	—
25 " " 35 .....	1	3	—	—	1	1	—	—
35 " " 45 .....	2	2	—	—	—	3	—	—
45 " " 55 .....	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55 " " 65 .....	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
65 and upwards .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals .....	9	9	4	—	2	6	1	—

There were 9 deaths from Tuberculosis during 1940—8 Pulmonary and 1 Non-pulmonary.

The distribution was as follows:—

	Cymmer.	Glyncorrwg.	Abergwynfi.
Pulmonary .....	3	1	4
Non-Pulmonary .....	1	0	0

Death rates from all cases of Tuberculosis:—

1940.  
0.99 per 1,000 population.

1939.  
0.53 per 1,000 population.

## Notification of Tuberculosis.

Of the nine deaths from Tuberculosis which occurred in the area during 1940, 78% had previously been notified as suffering from this disease.

The number of deaths from this disease shows an increase over last year's figures. The prevention of this disease is far more important than we have hitherto realised. Sanitation, prevention of dust, dry, clean houses, suitable clothing and boots, regular exercise are extremely important. Loss of sleep and anxiety are causes of more rapid progress of tuberculosis.

It is imperative to have healthy cows and clean milk. In my opinion the most important preventive is a plentiful and suitable diet for the young. A plentiful supply of nutritious food, and a prolonged period of absolute rest in the early stages of Tuberculosis will often lead to its arrest and cure. There is not now so much poverty in the area, but butter and meat are not so plentiful as they were; eggs are in less supply. An ample diet and rest and freedom from anxiety are very necessary for Tuberculosis patients.

The Welsh National Memorial Officers are doing a very useful work in this direction. Much could be done by increased number of hygienic lectures in the schools. There is a lecturer who visits the schools periodically, and whose lectures the teachers and children very much appreciate. During the year one of these lectures was given, and the children thoroughly enjoyed the lesson. They afterwards wrote an essay on the subject. In my opinion, these lectures in schools should be more frequent.

### Tuberculosis.

Particulars of new cases of Tuberculosis and of deaths from the disease in the area during 1939 are given in the following Table:—

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Under 1 year .....	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 and under 5 .....	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	—
5 " " 15 .....	—	1	—	1	—	1	—	—
15 " " 25 .....	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
25 " " 35 .....	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
35 " " 45 .....	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45 " " 55 .....	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
55 " " 65 .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and upwards .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Totals .....	5	3	1	1	1	1	2	1

There were 5 deaths from Tuberculosis during 1939—2 Pulmonary and 3 Non-pulmonary.

The distribution was as follows:

	Cymmer.	Glyncorrwg.	Abergwynfi.
Pulmonary .....	1	0	1
Non-Pulmonary .....	1	0	2

### Cancer (Malignant Disease).

There were 17 cases of death from Malignant Disease—males 5, and females 12.

Ages were:—Under 25—1; between 25 and under 45—1; between 45 and under 65—10; over 65 years—5.

The death-rate is as follows:—

1940—1.88 per 1,000 population.

1939—1.5 per 1,000 population.

### Scarlet Fever.

There were no deaths from Scarlet Fever.

Death rate:—

1940—Glyncorrwg: 0.0 per 1,000 population.

1940—England and Wales: 0.00 per 1,000 population.

### Diphtheria.

There were two deaths from Diphtheria.

Death rate:—

1940—Glyncorrwg: 0.22 per 1,000 population.

1940—England and Wales: 0.06 per 1,000 population.

### Diabetes.

There were no deaths from this disease. Recent advances in treatment by dieting and insulin have prolonged the lives of people suffering from this disease.

The death rate is as follows:—

1940—0.00 per 1,000 population.

1939—.53 per 1,000 population.

### Rheumatic Fever.

There were two deaths from Rheumatism. The clothing of the people could be better. There is much improvement in the conditions of some of the dwellings, but dry, warm houses are necessary to prevent this disease. Considering the wet conditions in some of the mines, and the heat and sweating in others, Rheumatic Fever is rare.

The death rate is as follows:—

1940—0.22 per 1,000 population.

Some of the house coal mines are very wet and cold, and tend to cause muscular rheumatism in miners working in these mines. Rheumatic Arthritis is quite common in females of adult age in the area.

### Cerebral Haemorrhage.

There were 11 deaths:—

Males 5. Females 6. Death rate 1940—1.21 per 1,000 population.

„ „ 1939—.32 per 1,000 population.

„ „ 1938—.62 per 1,000 population.

„ „ 1937—.92 per 1,000 of population.

„ „ 1936—1.38 per 1,000 of population.

Ages:—Under 1 year—1; 25 and under 45—0; 45 and under 65—3; 65 and upwards—7

### Heart Disease.

There were 23 deaths. Males 15. Females 8.

Ages:—Under 1 year—0, 1 and under 2—0, 15 and under 25—1, 25 and under 45  
2, 45 and under 65—8, 65 and upwards—12.

Death rate 1940—2.54 per 1,000 population.

„ „ 1939—3.20 „ „ „

„ „ 1938—2.40 „ „ „

„ „ 1937—2.16 „ „ „

„ „ 1936—2.46 „ „ „

**Arterio Sclerosis.**

There were no deaths from this disease

Death rate 1940—0.00 per 1,000 population.

"	"	1939—0.74	"	"	"
"	"	1938—0.10	"	"	"
"	"	1937—0.41	"	"	"
"	"	1936—0.00	"	"	"

**Influenza.**

There were 4 deaths—2 Males and 2 Females.

Death rate, 1940—Glyncorrwg: 0.44 per 1,000 population.

England and Wales: 0.32 per 1,000 population.

**Bronchitis.**

There were 8 deaths—Males 5, Females 3.

Ages:—Under 1 year—0, 1 and under 5—1, 15 and under 25—1, 25 and under 45—0, 45 and under 65—1, 65 and upwards—5.

Death rate 1940—0.88 per 1,000 population.

"	"	1939—0.21	"	"	"
"	"	1938—0.31	"	"	"
"	"	1937—0.61	"	"	"
"	"	1936—0.78	"	"	"

**Pneumonia (All Forms).**

There were 11 deaths—Males 7, Females 4.

Ages at death:—Under 1 year—1, 1 and under 2—3, 5 and under 15—0, 15 and under 25—0, 25 and under 45—1, 45 and under 65—3, 65 and upwards—3.

Death rate 1940—1.21 per 1,000 population.

"	"	1939—0.64	"	"	"
"	"	1938—0.62	"	"	"
"	"	1937—0.61	"	"	"
"	"	1936—0.19	"	"	"

There were 22 cases of Pneumonia notified during the year.

**Other Respiratory Diseases.**

There were 2 deaths from Silicosis—two males, age 64 and 51 years.

Death rate 1940—0.22 per 1,000 population.

There were 2 deaths from Pulmonary Congestion—2 males, ages 61 and 62 years.

**Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum.**

There were 2 deaths from Ulcers of Stomach and Duodenum.

Death rate 1940—0.22 per 1,000 population.



### Diarrhoea, under 2 years.

There was one death from Diarrhoea during 1940.

Generally the cause of this disease is milk or food which has been infected by someone or something. Education in cleanliness from the place of production to the place of consumption is one of the most important duties of the Health Visitor. Clean hands, clean food, clean habits, extermination of flies are of the greatest importance in the prevention of this disease. Over-feeding and unsuitable diet at irregular hours may start this complaint, and if it does not cause death, will at least retard the growth and development of a child very greatly. The summer was not too warm to reduce the ground water, and the rainfall was constant; and the general improvement in cleanliness in the homes are accountable for the low death rate.

### Gastro Enteritis.

There were no deaths.

### Peritonitis.

There were no deaths.

Peritonitis is caused by escape of intestinal contents into the peritoneal cavity, or by any infection getting into the peritoneal cavity. A common cause is an abscess which is liable to form around an inflamed vermiform appendix. Early diagnosis and treatment have kept this condition in check. The year's results are most satisfactory.

### Congenital Debility, Malformation, Premature Birth and Injury at Birth.

There were 8 deaths:—3 males, ages: 30 mins., 2 days and 1 week. 5 females, ages: 1 hour, 2 hours, 7 hours, 10 days, and 6 months.

Death rate 1940—.88 per 1,000 population.

„	„	1939—.64	„	„	„
„	„	1938—.62	„	„	„
„	„	1937—.51	„	„	„
„	„	1936—.29	„	„	„
„	„	1935—.5	„	„	„

### Suicide.

There was one case of suicide during the year.

Death rate 1940—0.11 per 1,000 population.

„	„	1939—0.00	„	„	„
„	„	1938—.00	„	„	„
„	„	1937—.00	„	„	„
„	„	1936—.00	„	„	„

### Other Deaths from Violence or Accidents.

There were 7 deaths. 2 males—Colliery Accidents; 1 male—Accidental Fall; 2 Females—Road Accidents; 1 Female—Accidentally Scalded; 1 Female—Irritant poisoning due to taking adult anaemia tablets (misadventure).



Death rate 1940—.77 per 1,000 population.

"	"	1939—.64	"	"	"
"	"	1938—.83	"	"	"
"	"	1937—.82	"	"	"
"	"	1936—.88	"	"	"
"	"	1935—.5	"	"	"

### Silicosis.

There were two deaths from this disease.

Death rate 1940—0.22 per 1,000 population.

"	"	1939—0.11	"	"	"
"	"	1938—0.31	"	"	"
"	"	1937—0.10	"	"	"
"	"	1936—0.00	"	"	"
"	"	1935—0.20	"	"	"

Silicosis is a preventable disease. In miners it is caused by the inhalation of silica, and silica is a tissue poison. The latent period of the disease, in ordinary cases is 10 or 20 years. Once symptoms have appeared, nothing very substantial can be done in the way of a cure. It is, therefore, of great importance that dangerous dusts should be known as soon as possible. Almost everyone underground must inhale a certain amount of silica; it remains to define the quantity which is injurious.

Tissue irritation, caused by breathing in large quantities of dust in high concentration, sooner or later produces changes in the lung itself. The normal, healthy lung substances are gradually replaced by dense, inert fibrous tissue.

The purely mechanical effects of this replacement may in time become of serious import, diminishing materially the area of lung tissue available, and ultimately throwing increased strain on the heart.

In addition the local vitality of the lung is lessened and the stamina of the patient undermined, rendering him more liable to secondary infections cumulative in their effect.

The silicotic, once certified, seems to be nobody's concern. The Colliery Owners pay compensation and the Miners' Federation, having done their work, retire. The local doctor has to continue to treat symptoms as they arise until the death of the patient, or of the doctor.

A combination of institutional treatment directed to meet special indications, training and rehabilitation, close medical supervision and social care at home will bring some relief to these pulmonary cripples.

Probably the prevalence of respiratory diseases among miners depends on the amount and character of the stone dust present, and the incidence of silicosis in the coal-field has a distinct relation to the kind of work done. Not only drillers of "hard headings," but other men in the district are exposed to highly concentrated silicon dust conditions.

If men must work in hard headings they should wear a well fitting mask, and the dust from the drill should be trapped efficiently. These rules are not observed by work men.

Early diagnosis is difficult because of no definite clinical signs. Radiographic appearances are useful, and the doctors in this area take full advantage of this means of diagnosis in suspected cases.

At present there is no provision for institutional treatment of silicosis, as such, but if a miner has silicosis and tuberculosis he is entitled to treatment by the Welsh National Memorial Association.

Eleven people were paid compensation by local collieries for Silocosis during the year, and many suspects were examined but could not be certified.

### **Anthracosis.**

In almost all cases of suspected silicosis, where the silicosis Medical Board decides that the patient is not suffering from silicosis, and is therefore not liable for compensation from his employers, the report states that the lungs contain a certain amount of dust.

I have many patients who are disabled completely because of symptoms and signs identical with those of silicosis, although the report is that dust is present in the lungs. Presumably this is coal dust.

Coal dust is not so injurious to the lung tissue as is silica, but it certainly leads to a great deal of disablement in men who have worked underground for many years.

### **Zymotic Diseases.**

There were two deaths from Diphtheria, and one from Measles.

The seven Zymotic Diseases are Small Pox, Measles, Scarlet Fever, Whooping Cough, Fevers (including Typhus, Typhoid and Paratyphoid), and Diphtheria.

Death rate 1940—0.33 per 1,000 population.

"	"	1939—0.11	"	"	"
"	"	1938—0.10	"	"	"
"	"	1937—0.30	"	"	"
"	"	1936—0.09	"	"	"

Zymotic Diseases death rate compared with England and Wales.

	Small Pox	Typhoid & Paratyphoid.	Measles.	Scarlet Fever.	Whooping Cough.	Diphtheria.
England & Wales .....	0.0	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.02	0.06
Glyncorrwg U.D. ....	0.0	0.0	0.11	0.00	0.00	0.22

### **Inquests.**

There were 10 inquests held in the area. Causes of death were—Colliery Accident 1, Silicosis 2, Accident in home 1, Toxaemia 1, Heart Disease 1, Road Accidents 2, Suicide 1, Irritant Poisoning, due to child taking adult anaemia tablets by misadventure 1. The percentage of deaths upon which inquests were held was 7.9%. The percentage in 1939 was 7.2% and 1938, 9.2%.

### Infantile Mortality Rate.

This may be defined as the number of deaths registered of infants under 1 year of age per 1,000 live births registered during the year.

The total number was 14 deaths.

There were no deaths of illegitimate infants under one year of age.

This would give an infant mortality rate of 63 per 1,000 live births. Comparison with other areas is as follows for the year 1940:—

Gelligaer .....	68	Pontypridd .....	50
Maesteg .....	81	Penarth .....	79
Aberdare .....	80	Port Talbot .....	65
Neath Borough .....	64	Porthcawl .....	53
Bridgend .....	70	Neath Rural .....	48
Mountain Ash .....	51	Pontardawe .....	70
Rhondda .....	63	Penybont .....	69
Ogmore and Garw .....	65	Cardiff Rural .....	47
Caerphilly .....	87	Llwchwr .....	88
Barry .....	64	Llantrisant & Llantwit Vardre	72
Glyncorrwg .....	63		

1940—Infant Mortality Rate for England and Wales—55 per 1,000 births.

The following are Infant Mortality rates for Glyncorrwg Urban District during the past 16 years:—

Year.	Births.	Deaths under 1 year.	Rate per 1,000 Births.
1924 .....	344	17	49.4
1925 .....	317	18	56.8
1926 .....	282	21	74.5
1927 .....	259	19	73.3
1928 .....	238	16	67.0
1929 .....	245	19	77.5
1930 .....	242	13	53.7
1931 .....	229	19	82.0
1932 .....	205	10	46.0
1933 .....	209	18	81.8
1934 .....	188	21	111.6
1935 .....	219	12	55.0
1936 .....	183	9	49.0
1937 .....	196	13	66.0
1938 .....	179	12	67.0
1939 .....	174	10	57.0
1940 .....	216	14	63.0

Ages at which Infant Deaths occurred distributed over the year 1940.

**TABLE 2.—INFANT MORTALITY, 1940.**

Nett Deaths from stated causes at various ages under 1 year.

Causes of Death.	Under 1 week	1-2 weeks	2-3 weeks	3-4 weeks	Total under 4 weeks	1-3 months	3-6 months	6-9 months	9-12 months	Total Deaths under 1 year
Small Pox .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Chicken Pox .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria & Croup .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculous Meningitis .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Tuberculous Diseases .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningitis (not Tuberculous) .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Convulsions .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
White Asphyxia .....	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Bronchitis .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia (all forms) ..	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Diarrhoea .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Inanition .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Congenital Laryngeal Stenosis .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Uraemia .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Accident (Scalds) .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Injury at Birth .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebral Haemorrhage .....	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Congenital Malfor'tions .....	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Premature Births .....	2	2	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	4
Atrophy, Debility and Marasmus .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Causes .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals .....	5	2	—	—	7	1	1	4	1	14

Total Deaths under 1 year, 14—6 Males, 8 Females.

Ages at which Infant Deaths occurred distributed over the year 1939.

**TABLE 2.—INFANT MORTALITY, 1939.**

Nett Deaths from stated causes at various ages under 1 year.

Causes of Death	Under 1 week	1-2 weeks	2-3 weeks	3-4 weeks	Total under 4 weeks	1-3 months	3-6 months	6-9 months	9-12 months	Totals Death under 1 year
Small Pox .....	—	—	—	—	...	—	—	—	—	—
Chicken Pox .....	—	—	—	—	...	—	—	—	—	—
Measles .....	—	—	—	—	...	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever .....	—	—	—	—	...	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough .....	—	—	—	—	...	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria & Croup .....	—	—	—	—	...	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas .....	—	—	—	—	...	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculous Meningitis .....	—	—	—	—	...	—	—	—	—	—
Other Tuberculous Diseases .....	—	—	—	—	...	—	—	—	—	—
Meningitis (not Tuberculous) .....	—	—	—	—	...	—	—	—	—	—
Convulsions .....	—	—	—	—	...	—	2	—	—	2
Blue Asphyxia .....	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Bronchitis .....	—	—	—	—	...	1	—	—	—	1
Pneumonia (all forms) ..	—	—	—	1	1	—	1	—	—	2
Diarrhoea .....	—	—	—	—	...	—	—	—	—	—
Inanition .....	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Pulmonary Congestion ...	—	—	—	—	...	—	—	—	—	—
Spina Bifida .....	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Congenital Heart Disease ..	—	—	—	—	...	—	—	—	—	—
Injury at Birth .....	—	—	—	—	...	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebral Haemorrhage ..	—	—	—	—	...	—	—	—	—	—
Congenital Malfor'tions ..	—	—	—	—	...	—	—	—	—	—
Premature Births .....	1	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	2
Atrophy, Debility and Marasmus .....	—	—	—	—	...	—	—	—	—	—
Other Causes .....	—	—	—	—	...	—	—	—	—	—
Totals .....	3	1	1	1	6	1	3	—	—	10

Total Deaths under 1 year, 10—7 Males, 3 Females.



## GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

### Isolation Hospital.

Arrangements have now been made to receive our Fever cases in the New Fever Hospital at Port Talbot. Many ordinary slight cases are treated at home.

Arrangements can be made with the Port Talbot Borough for admission of Small Pox cases, should such cases arise.

The incidence and results of treatment of infectious diseases in this area compare very favourably with that of any other Authority.

### Maternity Home Accommodation.

When a maternity case requires hospital treatment, such case is sent to Penrhiewtyn General Hospital. A specialist is in attendance at the Hospital. Few patients go to the Maesteg Maternity Hospital for confinement. Some women—with poor physique and from poor homes—should be encouraged to go to this Institution for the lying-in period. This Hospital is very comfortable, and is thoroughly up-to-date. The resident Staff is obliging and is very capable. The Hospital Maintenance Fee is £2 2s. 0d. per week in Penrhiewtyn Hospital. A very reasonable fee for such a fine Hospital and Staff.

**Maternal Mortality.** There were no deaths from Puerperal Sepsis.

### Puerperal Fever.

There were two cases of Puerperal Pyrexia notified during the year.

### Small Pox and Typhoid.

These can be admitted to the Port Talbot Infectious Diseases Hospital.

### Tuberculosis.

There is no Sanatorium in the area. Patients for admission to Tuberculosis hospitals are cared for by the Welsh National Memorial Association.

### Ambulance Facilities.

In cases sent to Port Talbot Fever Hospital, arrangements can be made for removal to hospital by the Fever Ambulance of Port Talbot. There are two very fine motor ambulances in the area—one in Cymmer, a St. John's Ambulance, and one in Glynccorwng owned by the inhabitants. Both these are comfortable, and render prompt and very valuable service to the district. The St. John's Ambulance serves Cymmer and Abergwynfi inhabitants. It is of great use, and is used constantly. It is maintained by the workmen and Colliery Owners.

## CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

### Maternity and Child Welfare.

There are four Centres. (1) Cymmer occupies the whole of the upper floor of 126 Margam Street. It is excellently arranged, and very suitable for a Clinic. (2) A suitable well built, centrally situated house was purchased at 26 Villiers Road, Abergwynfi and many alterations were made at considerable cost and is now used as a clinic. The Ground Floor of



the building is used as a clinic and is eminently suited and equipped for such purpose. The attendances at this new clinic have increased remarkably. (3) Rooms were rented in the Glyncoirwg Memorial Hall during 1939 in place of the Council's Maternity and Child Welfare Centre at Glyncoirwg, a temporary wooden structure which had become very dilapidated. (4) In February, 1936, a clinic was started in Abercregan and is held in the Workmen's Institute. Clinics are held 1—2.30 p.m. on Fridays once a month and are quite well attended.

Clinics are held on alternate weeks in other Centres as follows:—Cymmer: Fridays, 3.30 to 5 p.m. Abergwynfi: Wednesdays, 3.30 to 5 p.m. Glyncoirwg, Tuesdays, 11 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.

### **School Clinics.**

There are two Clinics for the area—(1) the Maternity and Child Welfare Clinic in Cymmer; (2) the Clinic, Abergwynfi, for dental treatment on Thursdays. These Clinics are held on alternate Wednesdays for eyes, and alternate Thursdays for dental treatment. These are under the direction of the M.O.H. for Glamorgan.

### **Tuberculosis Visiting Station.**

Patients who can travel are seen at the Clinic, 2 Church Place, Maesteg on Fridays, 10 to 12 a.m. The Tuberculosis physicians readily come in consultation to the homes of patients. Consultations at the homes of patients are becoming much more frequent, and such arrangement is more satisfactory. X-Ray examinations are conducted in Bridgend on Mondays. There is an excellent X-Ray and Light Treatment Apparatus at Cimla. These are constantly in use for the people from this area. The Medical Staff in these stations do thorough examinations, and give opinions which are of all importance both to patients and their medical attendants. A special feature of reports sent to practitioners is an X-Ray photograph attached. This is a most valuable addition to the opinion of the Tuberculosis Specialist.

### **Venereal Diseases Clinic.**

This is held in Station Square, Port Talbot. It is open for female consultation on Fridays and for males on Mondays and Tuesdays. Patients are allowed travelling expenses who attend this Clinic. It is maintained by the Glamorgan County Council.

It is an extremely rare thing for a patient from this area to require such treatment.

### **Midwives.**

These are supervised by the Glamorgan County Council. There are four trained midwives in the area. One trained in Cymmer. Two trained in Abergwynfi. One trained in Glyncoirwg. These nurses are paid for their services by the Glamorgan County Council. They are capable and obliging and hard working. In my opinion, their work is satisfactory. They inform doctors of patients' pregnancy, and work in co-operation satisfactorily.

### Chemical and Bacteriological Work.

There is a scale of agreed payment to the Cardiff and County Laboratory where such work is carried on. There is a stock of Diphtheria swabs, sputum bottles, etc. which medical men can have on request. These are kept at the Council Offices.

### Disinfection.

There are facilities for Disinfection of clothes in the Hospital. The houses are disinfected by means of formalin tablets, and spraying with disinfectant, and this work is well attended to by your Sanitary Inspector.

### Infectious Diseases.

There were 292 cases of Infectious Diseases notified during the year.

There were 40 cases of Scarlet Fever, 29 of Diphtheria, 22 Pneumonia, and 22 Tuberculosis.

There were 11 deaths from Pneumonia. There were two deaths from Diphtheria.

### Post Mortem Examination.

There are facilities provided at the Mortuary, Isolation Hospital, Cymmer, for the performance of Post Mortem Examinations, and one post mortem was performed here

**TABLE 3.**

### NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the year, 1940.

Diseases.	Total Cases Notified.	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Small Pox .....	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever .....	40	—	—
Diphtheria .....	29	2	2
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid) .....	—	—	—
Puerperal Fever .....	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia .....	2	—	—
Pneumonia .....	22	1	11
Erysipelas .....	6	—	—
Whooping Cough .....	—	—	—

**TABLE 4.**  
**NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.**

Table giving an analysis of the total notified cases of Infectious Diseases in the area, during 1940, under various age groups.

Disease.	Under 1 yr.	1 & under 2	2 & under 3	3 & under 4	4 & under 5	5 & under 10	10 & un'er 15	15 & un'er 20	20 & un'er 35	35 & un'er 45	45 & un'er 65	65 & over	Total all Ages.
Small Pox .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever .....	—	1	1	5	2	18	10	2	1	—	—	—	40
Diphtheria .....	1	—	1	2	3	11	3	6	2	—	—	—	29
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid) .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Fever .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	2
Pneumonia .....	2	3	1	1	—	—	—	6	2	1	4	2	22
Erysipelas .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	2	2	6
Whooping Cough .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

**TABLE 5.**  
**INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED, for Year 1940.**

The following Table shows the distribution of Infectious Diseases in the area:—

Disease.	Cymmer.	Aberg'f.	Glync'wg.	Total
Diphtheria .....	9	6	14	29
Scarlet Fever .....	22	12	6	40
Pneumonia .....	20	—	2	22
Pulmonary Tuberculosis .....	11	6	1	18
Other Tuberculosis .....	3	1	—	4
Erysipelas .....	3	—	3	6
Chicken Pox .....	22	—	—	22
Measles .....	76	47	20	143
Anterior Poliomyelitis .....	—	—	2	2
Cerebro Spinal Fever .....	3	—	1	4
Puerperal Pyrexia .....	—	2	—	2
Whooping Cough .....	—	—	—	—
<b>Total</b> .....	<b>169</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>292</b>

TABLE 5.

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED, for Year 1939.

The following Table shows the distribution of Infectious Diseases in the area:—

Disease.	Cymmer.	Aberg'fi.	Glync'wg.	Total.
Diphtheria .....	7	44	1	52
Scarlet Fever .....	24	3	2	29
Pneumonia .....	15	2	2	19
Pulmonary Tuberculosis .....	3	5	1	9
Other Tuberculosis .....	1	2	0	3
Erysipelas .....	2	0	0	2
Encephalitis Lethargica .....	0	0	0	0
Ophthalmia Neonatorum .....	0	0	0	0
Anterior Poliomyelitis .....	0	0	0	0
Puerperal Sepsis .....	0	0	0	0
Puerperal Pyrexia .....	0	2	0	2
Whooping Cough .....	1	0	0	1
Total .....	53	58	6	117

In 1938 a total of 58 Infectious Diseases were notified.

In 1937 a total of 84 Infectious Diseases were notified.

**Pneumonia.**

There were 22 cases notified, and there were 11 deaths from the disease—7 males and 4 females.

The deaths were:—from Cymmer 4; Abergwynfi 4; Glyncorrwg 3.

Acute primary pneumonia, together with acute influenzal pneumonia, became compulsorily notifiable by medical practitioners in 1919. A memorandum which was issued at the time by the Local Government Board has now been re-issued in a revised form by the Ministry of Health. It was never anticipated that in the present state of our knowledge the mere notification of pneumonia and the action consequent thereon would result in any great immediate reduction in the total incidence of the disease, but it was thought that the public might thereby be awakened to a sense of the gravity of the malady. It was thought, too, that notification might supply valuable statistical information as to the distribution of pneumonia, and contribute in some measure to a reduction in the mortality from it, by bringing to light those cases in which the local authority could help by providing nursing or other assistance or by arranging for institutional treatment. A recent advance in treatment (M. & B. 695) hastens the crisis and diminishes mortality.

## Death rate from Pneumonia :—

1940—1.21 per 1,000 population.			
1939—0.04	"	"	"
1938—0.62	"	"	"
1937—0.61	"	"	"
1936—0.19	"	"	"
1935—0.3	"	"	"
1934—.69	"	"	"

Care of clothing and feeding of children, ventilation and warming of houses, and the teaching of regular habits are essential for the prevention of this disease. Considering the amount of sweating by miners in steam coal collieries, and the sudden change to wintry conditions, they escape this infection fairly well.

**Tuberculosis.**

There were 22 cases notified during the year.

	Pulmonary.	Other T.B. Infections.
Abergwynfi .....	6 .....	1
Cymmer .....	11 .....	3
Glyncorrwg .....	1 .....	0
	—	—
	18 .....	4 Total 22
	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>

## Attack rate as per notifications:—

1940.—Pulmonary—1.99	Non-Pulmonary—0.44 per 1,000 population.
1939.—       "       .75	0.32       "       "
1938.—       "       1.15	0.62       "       "
1937.—       "       1.02	0.72       "       "
1936.—       "       0.98	0.39       "       "
1935.—       "       1.00	0.2       "       "
1934.—       "       1.87	0.29       "       "
1933.—       "       0.88	1.08       "       "
1932.—       "       1.11	0.88       "       "
1931.—       "       1.07.	0.38       "       "

The treatment of Tuberculosis is carried out by special physicians appointed by the Welsh National Memorial Association. These are full time officers. They visit Maesteg on Fridays, but are always most willing to come to any part of the district and thoroughly search for any infection that may be suspected. Their advice is extremely helpful. Their X-Ray photographs and reports are most instructive to the patients' medical attendants. The new X-Ray Apparatus in Cimla shows the lung conditions wonderfully clearly. The Physicians are both expert and obliging.

Cases of Tuberculosis are notified by private practitioners and Tuberculosis physicians, and any transfers to the district are notified. The houses from which Tuberculous patients have been removed are thoroughly disinfected.



### Cases removed from Tuberculosis Physician's Register of Cases as "cured" during 1940.

Abergwynfi—1 case Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

Blaengwynfi—1 case Tuberculous Cervical Adenitis.

Glyncorrwg—2 cases Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

### Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

There were no cases notified during the year.

### Vaccinations.

Return of Vaccinations in the area for the years:—

	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940
Total number vaccinated .....	115	102	106	84	75	90
Total number of exemptions granted .....	40	39	34	36	25	46
Total number died before vaccination .....	6	4	7	5	8	6
Total number unvaccinated .....	50	20	35	35	43	80

### Maternity and Child Welfare.

During the year the Authority has supplied milk to expecting and nursing mothers to the value of £123. This is a reduction of £102 on last year's amount, and is due to the operation of the National Milk Scheme which came into force in the latter half of the year. Dried milk for children, to the value of £420, was supplied through the Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics. Of this sum, 95% represents dried milk sold at cost price.

A large quantity of dried milk and yeast extract and colact was supplied free to expectant mothers by the Joint Council of Midwifery. This should reduce maternal and infantile mortality.

The work carried on comprises:—Health Visiting. Infant consultations at Clinics. Ante-natal visiting.

The Health Visitor devotes the whole of her time to the above work.

There are no Ante-natal Clinics. They are not necessary, as every expectant mother in the area can have advice in the privacy of her home without any additional cost being incurred.

The maternity nurses are alert and examine the urine of cases in which they expect to attend in confinement. Any abnormality is reported. Each child is visited during its first week, and weekly for nine weeks. The health visitor calls at intervals until the child is 5 years old. Parents are urged to bring children to the Clinics, but they do not do so in anything like the number to be expected. This may be accounted for by cheap and efficient medical service at home. The work of the health visitor is shown as follows:—

Visits to expectant mothers—1st visits—152. Total visits—152.

To infants under 1 year—1st visits—227. Total visits—587.

To children 1 to 5 years—Total visits—893.

There were 14 stillbirths. Legitimate—9 males, 5 females.



Enquiry shows that the following were probable causes:—Prematurity and Inanition, Congenital Deformity.

The total attendance at Clinics:—

	Glyn-corrwg.	Aber-gwynfi.	Cymmer.	Aber-cregan.	Total.
On Register .....	162 .....	189 .....	184 .....	152 .....	687
Total Attendances .....	903 .....	922 .....	524 .....	255 .....	2604

The Medical Officers are very busy during the hour and a half at their disposal, to examine babies who attend the Clinics.

Total number of children who attended Centres for the first time during the year:

	Glyn-corrwg.	Aber-gwynfi.	Cymmer.	Aber-cregan.	Total.
Under 1 year .....	31 .....	42 .....	31 .....	22 .....	191
Between 1 and 5 years .....	60 .....	72 .....	67 .....	26 .....	155

The Schools are supplied from the mains with a plentiful supply of water, and Sanitary conditions are as nearly perfect as possible.

No action has been necessary to be taken re compulsory removal of T.B. cases under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

There is an arrangement between this Authority and the Glamorgan County Council for the orthopaedic treatment of children requiring such treatment.

#### **Cases of Difficult Confinement (Necessitous Mothers) in their Homes.**

In cases of difficult confinement the Medical Officer of Health has been authorised to engage the services of a consultant when he deems it necessary, at a fee of £3/3/0 plus 9d. per mile travelling expenses. This consultant was not called upon during the year.

#### **Cases of Difficult Confinements (Necessitous Mothers). Hospital Treatment.**

Cases of difficult confinement are sent to Penrhiwtyn Hospital. The fees in necessitous cases (according to a scale laid down by the Council), are paid by the Authority. The cost during 1940 was £22 0s. 0d.

#### **Birth Control.**

Arrangements have been made for the provision of Birth Control advice when the Medical Officer deems it necessary on medical grounds. The patient attends the Birth Control Clinics at Pontypridd or Port Talbot. There were no cases during 1940.

#### **Dental Treatment.**

The Council have made arrangements with the Health Committee, Glamorgan County Council, for the provision of Dental Treatment for necessitous expectant mothers and children of pre-school age, and for the supply of dentures at an agreed scale of charges. £13 0s. 0d. was expended.

#### **Orthopaedic Treatment.**

Orthopaedic treatment is provided free of charge for children of necessitous parents. A sum of £146 0s. 0d. was expended. Very excellent results can be seen from the treatment of these cases.

### Insanity.

There were two rate-aided patients—1 male and 1 female admitted to the Glamorgan County Mental Hospital, Bridgend, during the year 1940.

### GOVERNMENT EVACUATION SCHEME.

The following information has been supplied to me by the Sanitary Inspector, who is also the Chief Billeting Officer.

The first party of evacuees to be billeted in the Glyncoirwg Urban District, arrived on the 2nd June, 1940. These were school children with their teachers and "helpers", from the Medway towns of Gillingham and Erith.

On arrival they were medically inspected and provided with a meal. They were then allocated to their billets in various parts of the district and conveyed to them by 'bus.

More parties of children arrived later, and were followed by organised groups of mothers and children, mainly from the London boroughs of West Ham and Lewisham. Two of these groups had been bombed out of their homes and were, in the first instance, accommodated in hospitals in Cardiff and Bridgend for a short period to enable them to be rested, and to clean up before being sent to this area.

All parties were medically inspected and provided with a meal before being dispersed to their billets.

The following table gives the numbers of the organised parties and the dates of their arrival in the area during 1940:—

Evacuees.	Date of Arrival.	Numbers.
1st Party School Children .....	2/ 6/40 .....	91
2nd Party School Children .....	25/ 6/40 .....	46
1st Party Mothers and Children .....	10/10/40 .....	106
2nd Party Mothers and Children .....	18/10/40 .....	137
3rd Party Mothers and Children .....	18/11/40 .....	62
Total .....		442

A large number of evacuees also arrived in the area, having made private arrangements for their accommodation. These brought with them Official Certificates, which entitled them to be billeted.

The monthly position of evacuees billeted in this district as from October, 1940, was as follows:—

Month.	Children. Unaccompanied	Accompanied Children.	Mothers	Other Adults.	Total.
October .....	157	335	197	15	704
November .....	161	392	231	40	824
December .....	213	345	238	43	839

## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

### ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

1.—Number of Council Houses found to be infested .....	0
Number of Council Houses disinfested .....	0
Number of other houses found to be infested .....	3
Number of other houses disinfested .....	3
2.—Premises are disinfested by the combined method of spraying with liquid insecticide and the use of sulphur fumigation.	
3.—When the Council's Rent Collector has reason to believe the belongings of an incoming tenant are likely to be infested with vermin he is instructed to inform the Sanitary Inspector, who makes an inspection of the same.	
4.—The work of bug disinfection is carried out by the Local Authority.	
5.—Tenants of Council Houses and other houses are informed that the Sanitary Inspector is ready at all times to co-operate with them in the eradication of bed bugs.	

### RATS AND MICE (DESTRUCTION) ACT, 1919.

The officer appointed to supervise the execution and enforcement of the Act in the Glyncoerrwg Urban District is the Sanitary Inspector—Mr. John Tate.

The General Purposes Committee of the Council is the Committee to which the Council's powers and duties under the Act are delegated.

The Sanitary Inspector, by virtue of his other duties which bring him into contact with householders, occupiers of business premises, farms, factories and workshops is, in the opinion of the Council, the officer who is best able to discover and deal with rat and mice infestation.

All complaints of rat infestation are dealt with without delay and the Sanitary Inspector himself lays the rat poison baits which are provided free of cost by the Authority. Advice is also given as to methods of rendering buildings rat-proof, and the officer has been successful in persuading the larger retailers of corn and grain and like commodities to store these in rat-proof metal bins.

Encouragement is also given to owners of dogs and ferrets in the sport of rat hunting, and large numbers of rats are destroyed in this way.

During National Rat Week posters are displayed, in various parts of the district, calling the attention of the public to the dangers of rat infestation and offering the advice and service of the Rat Officer.

In general, it cannot be said that rat infestation constitutes a serious problem in the Glyncoerrwg Urban District for the following reasons.

The Urban area comprises seven mining villages which are widely separated, and there are in the villages no old and congested tenements which usually afford such good harbourage for rats. There is also a complete absence of those large warehouses, factories and workplaces owned by food manufacturing and distributive firms and others which so often provide shelter and sustenance for rats and where intensive breeding takes place.

The farms in the area are all sheep farms—very few cattle and pigs being kept. Therefore there are no stores of grain and roots at the farms which would provide food for rats.

There are a number of collieries in the district, and it is generally accepted that these are infested with rats to a greater or lesser degree, both above and below ground.

Only in few instances, however, has proximity to a colliery given rise to complaints of rat infestation due to migration of rats to nearby premises.

During 1940, apart from National Rat Week, 228 poison baits were laid by the rat officer in eleven premises, and results in each case were good.

During National Rat Week, 1940, 831 rat poison baits were laid in 31 premises in the area, and on the Council's refuse tips. Good results were obtained.

Three kinds of rat poison baits were used, namely the red squill, barium carbonate and phosphorous types. These were laid according to circumstances, all outside baiting being done with red squill poisons which are claimed to be non-injurious to human beings and domestic animals.

#### WATER SUPPLY.

A good supply of wholesome water has been supplied to the whole area, although some of the high level houses are erected at a high altitude, 1,100 ft. O.D., along the mountain side. This is of great assistance not only in keeping the district with a good supply of drinkable water, but also for the purpose of flushing the drains and sewers. The following is an analysis of the samples of water taken during the year.

#### REPORT ON BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION & CHEMICAL ANALYSIS OF SAMPLES OF WATER.

SAMPLES TAKEN FROM	RESERVOIR	DATE	BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION	CHEMICAL ANALYSIS
Spring A.	Nant Shenkin, Abergwynfi.	29.1.40	Traces only of sediment. Animate forms rare.	Of medium hardness and of acid reaction. Chemical analysis shows no signs of any organic contamination.
Spring B.	Nant Shenkin, Abergwynfi.	29.1.40	A small amount of sediment, brown vegetable tissue and debris. Animate forms rare.	
Spring C.	Graig-y-Gelli, Abergwynfi.	29.1.40	Trace only of sediment. Animate forms rare.	Of acid reaction. Chemical analysis shows no signs of organic contamination.
Tap, Scotch St.	Spring, Avon Hill, Abergwynfi	7.2.40	Traces (only) of vegetable debris. Animate forms rare.	Of medium hardness. Chemical analysis shows no evidence of any organic contamination.
Tap, 10, Arthur St., Blaengwynfi	High Level Tank, Gwynfi Brook.	28.2.40	Fairly Satisfactory.	A soft water of faintly alkaline reaction. The chemical and microscopical examinations are satisfactory.
Tap, Graig-y-fan, Cymmer.	High Level Tank, Glyncorrwg	27.6.40	Satisfactory.	A soft, neutral water. The chemical and microscopical examinations are satisfactory.

(Signed) JOHN H. SUGDEN.



## SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE.

The Main Sewer laid in the bed of the River Avan suffered no serious damage during the year, except for a few blockages, which were remedied as soon as possible. Your subsidiary sewers are in good working order, and practically the whole of the houses in the area, with the exception of the outlying farms or dwelling houses are connected up to the Main Sewer.

## RIVERS AND STREAMS.

I have to report that a small number of the Colliery Companies within the area are still tipping the colliery debris alongside of the rivers and streams, with the result that when they are in flood most of the debris tipped is washed away and deposited on the lowlands, causing islands to accumulate here and there, and diverting the main river into the side banks.

## REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

The scavenging of the area is carried out under separate contracts in the various Wards and sub-divisions of Wards.

Collections are made daily, except for a few isolated groups of houses where refuse bins are provided and emptied as often as found necessary. Refuse disposal is by means of uncontrolled tipping on five sites in various parts of the district.

Abergwynfi and Blaengwynfi Ward. The scavenging is carried out by two contractors, one for Abergwynfi and one for Blaengwynfi.

The Abergwynfi tip is on a site near Avon Hill above High Street. The tip for the Blaengwynfi district is on the site of the old colliery level.

Glyncorrwg Ward is let as one contract, and the refuse is tipped on a site about 400 yards from the village on the west side of the Glyncorrwg-Cymmer road.

Cymmer Ward is sub-divided into three districts, each of which is let as a separate contract as follows:—Cymmer North side—Refuse tipped on the Glyncorrwg tipping site situated approximately 400 yards from Glyncorrwg on the west side of the Cymmer-Glyncorrwg road. Cymmer South side.—The tipping site is situated about 500 yards from the village on the North side of the Cymmer-Duffryn road.

Duffryn Afan and Cynon Afan. The refuse is tipped on a site about 200 yards from Cynon Afan on the North side of the Cynon-Duffryn road.

On several occasions during the year it was found necessary to draw the attention of certain contractors to the lax manner in which they carried out their work.

## HOUSING.

Number of new dwelling houses erected during the year :—

(a) Total (including numbers given separately under (b) .....	0
(b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts :—	
(i) Built by the Local Authority .....	0
(ii) Built by other bodies or persons .....	0

**1.—Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the year.**

1.—(a) Total number of dwelling Houses inspected for Housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) .....	83
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose .....	231
2.—(a) Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above), which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidation Regulations, 1925 .....	0
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose .....	0
3.—Number of dwelling Houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation .....	0
4.—Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation .....	66

**2.—Remedy of Defects during the year without service of Formal Notice.**

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers .....	33
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**3.—Action under Statutory Powers during the year.****A.—Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 & 16 of Housing Act, 1936—**

(1) Number of dwelling houses in which notices were served requiring repairs .....	0
(2) Number of dwelling houses rendered fit after service of Formal Notice:	
(a) By Owners .....	0
(b) By Local Authority .....	0

**B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts—**

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied .....	42
(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of Formal Notice:	
(a) By Owners .....	21
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners .....	0

**C.—Proceedings under Sections 11 & 13 Housing Act, 1936—**

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made .....	0
(2) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Order .....	0

**D.—Proceedings under Section 12 Housing Act, 1936—**

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made .....	0
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit .....	0



**4.—Housing Act, 1936.—Part IV.—Overcrowding:—**

(a).— (i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year .....	Information not available.	
(ii) Number of families dwelling therein .....		
(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein .....		
(b).—Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year .....		0
(c).— (i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year .....		0
(ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases .....		0
(d).—Number of cases in which dwellings have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding .....		0

**Sanitary Inspection of the Area.**

Summary of Routine Inspections, Inspections and Re-inspections made on complaint of nuisances during the year ended 31st December, 1940.

Nature of Inspections.	Number.
<b>General District Inspections:—</b>	
Abergwynfi and Blaengwynfi .....	17
Cymmer .....	8
Duffryn Rhondda and Cynonville .....	7
Glyncorwg .....	11
Dwelling houses in respect to Housing Defects and on complaint of nuisances owing to disrepair, etc. ....	83
Revisits to abate nuisances and to remedy defects .....	231
Miscellaneous nuisances .....	28
Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops .....	80
Slaughterhouses, Butcher Shops .....	73
Fish Shops, Grocery and Provision Stores, Greengrocers and places where food is prepared for sale (not including visits to sausage making factories) .....	212
Factories, Workshops and Workplaces (including Bakehouses) .....	53
Shops Act, 1934 .....	11
Stables .....	9
Piggeries .....	7
Defective Drains and New Drains .....	41
Defective Sewers .....	7
Cinemas and Halls .....	7
Water Works .....	3
Infectious Disease Investigations .....	101
Complaints of Water Supply .....	83
Revisits for Disinfections, etc. ....	87
Isolation Hospital .....	1
Visits to homes of persons on Tuberculosis Register .....	23
Refuse Tips .....	11
Rats and Mice Destruction .....	53
Bug Disinfestation .....	8
<b>Total number of Inspections</b> .....	<b>1245</b>

Summary of Breaches of Acts, Orders and Regulations discovered during Routine and other Inspections,—action taken and results.

Subject of Inspections	Nature of breaches of Acts, Orders and Regulations.	No. of Informal Notices Served	No. of Statutory Notices Served	No. of Notices complied with.	
				Informal	Statutory
Dwelling Houses under Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925.	Dampness, Disrepair, Defective paved areas, W.C.'s Drainage, etc.	66	24	33	21
Dwelling Houses on complaint of a nuisance.					
Miscellaneous nuisances	Dead Sheep, Deposits of Manure, Deposits of house refuse, etc., causing nuisances.	8	—	8	—
Cowsheds, Dairies & Milkshops.	Limewashing required Accumulations of manure rendering access to cowshed uncleanly. Dirty milk-stools, etc.	6	—	6	—
Butcher Shops, Fish Shops, Grocery & Provision Stores & places where food is prepared.	Removal of refuse, Cleansing and Limewashing required	2	—	2	—
Factories, Workshops and Work-places (including Bakehouses).	Cleansing and Lime-washing required.	2	—	2	—
Pigstyes.	Cleansing and Lime-washing required.	1	—	1	—
Drains.	Defective & Choked Drains.	10	3	7	3

**Camping Sites.**

There are no camping sites in use in the area.

**Common Lodging Houses.**

There are no common Lodging Houses in the area.

**Houses Let in Lodgings.**

There are no houses in the district which may be considered to require the application to them of byelaws under Section 6 of the Housing Act, 1936.

**Tents, Vans and Sheds.**

There are no habitations in the area to which the above descriptions could be applied.

**Offensive Trades.**

No offensive trades are established in the district.

**Rag Flock Acts, 1911 and 1928.**

There are no premises in the district on which rag flock is manufactured, used or sold.

**MILK AND DAIRIES ORDER, 1926.****Cowsheds and Dairies.**

There were 80 visits of inspection made during the year to Cowsheds and Dairies. Notices were served in four instances requiring cowsheds to be lime-washed, in one instance requiring manure to be removed from entrance to cowshed, and in one instances requiring floor of cowshed and milking stools to be cleansed.

**MILK.**

The following table gives the number and classification of registered persons engaged and registered premises used in the production, sale and storage of milk.

Cowkeepers who are also Retail Purveyors of Milk .....	12
Retail Purveyors of Milk .....	10
Milk Shops .....	1
Milk Shops where the milk is sold in sealed bottles .....	6
Farms and other premises which are used as dairies .....	19

**Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936.**

Five retail purveyors were licensed to sell Pasteurised Milk during the year.

**Bacteriological Examination of Milk.**

During 1940, eight samples of ordinary milk were taken by the Sanitary Inspector from retail purveyors of milk in the area, and were conveyed to the Cardiff and County Public Health Laboratory for Bacteriological examination.

The purpose of this examination is to determine the quality of the milk from the standpoint of cleanliness, keeping quality and freedom from contamination. Also in certain cases, when we have reason to suspect Tubercular infection, the milk samples are examined for the presence of Tubercle Bacilli.

The various grades of milk mentioned in the Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936, namely, "Accredited," "Tuberculin Tested," and "Pasteurised," have, amongst other conditions, to attain certain standards of bacterial purity, and these standards are useful for the purpose of comparison when dealing with the results of bacteriological examination of ordinary milk.

Of the ordinary milk samples examined, four were of milk produced on farms within the area, and four were of milk produced outside the Glyncorrwg Urban District.

Of the samples of milk from outside the district, all attained the bacteriological standard required for accredited milk, and all passed the Methylene blue reduction test. All of the samples of milk produced locally attained the bacteriological standard of purity required for "Tuberculin Tested" milk, and all satisfied the Methylene blue reduction test.

### **Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925.**

No action was taken during 1940 under the above regulations.

### **The Production of Clean Milk.**

The farms in the district are all sheep farms; milk production being of secondary importance.

The average number of milking cows kept by producers in the area is five. It should occasion no surprise, therefore, to learn that such modern apparatus as steam sterilizing plant for the sterilization of milk utensils are conspicuous by their absence. Their cost making them prohibitive. Cowsheds, too, are far from being elaborate.

It may be stated, however, that painstaking attention to cleanliness by simple methods during the processes of milking, handling and storage are productive of a cleaner milk than the careless use of up-to-date appliances.

A good standard of cleanliness was maintained by milk producers and retail purveyors in the area during the year.

### **MEAT INSPECTION.**

There are two licensed slaughterhouses in the district—one at the rear of 165 Jersey Road, Blaengwynfi, and the other at the rear of 40 and 41 Commercial Street, Abergwynfi. Early in January these Slaughterhouses were closed following upon the introduction of the Government Scheme for centralised slaughtering. Most of the home-killed meat now consumed in the district is supplied from the Port Talbot Abattoir.

The following is a summary of the meat condemned during the year:—

Beef .....	125 lbs. .
Pig Carcases .....	120 "
Bovine Livers .....	46½ "
Bovine Lungs .....	12 "
Bovine Mesentery .....	10 "
Sheeps Liver .....	4 "
Sheeps Lungs .....	3 "
<hr/>	
Total .....	320½ "

## **Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924.**

Notice of slaughter, in accordance with the above Regulations were received in respect of 13 pigs. Every effort was made by the Sanitary Inspector to examine the carcasses and organs of these animals after slaughter. Much of the meat consumed in the district is sold from motor vans, and the above Regulations in respect to these was strictly enforced. The Regulations, in so far as they apply to butchers' shops, are now complied with by all the butchers in the area.

## **The Slaughter of Animals for human consumption in premises other than Licensed or Registered Slaughterhouses.**

During 1933 the Council gave consideration to applications which were received from two farmers in the area, asking that permission be granted them to slaughter animals on farm premises. In connection therewith the Medical Officer of Health and Sanitary Inspector submitted a joint report on the Statutes and Regulations, which contain provisions as to the limitation of slaughtering, with special reference to the Minister of Health's Circular 604, dated June, 1925. The Council decided after consideration of the report to allow Farmers, Smallholders, and Cottagers to slaughter, for their own consumption or sale to their neighbours, a reasonable number of animals of their own rearing per annum.

The term "a reasonable number" was defined as follows:—

Farmers	.....	12 sheep and 6 pigs per annum.
Smallholders	.....	4 sheep and 4 pigs per annum.
Cottagers	.....	4 pigs per annum.

## **The Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.**

In accordance with the provisions of the above Act, licences to slaughter animals were granted by the Council to nine butchers and slaughtermen in the area. They were distributed as follows:—

Abergwynfi—6; Cymmer—2; Glyncorrwg—1.

Mechanical stunning instruments are in use at the slaughter-houses. The Council have not passed a resolution making the use of mechanical stunning instruments compulsory for the slaughter of sheep and goats.

## **OTHER FOODS.**

The number of visits of inspection made during the year to butchers shops, provision stores, fishmongers' shops, greengrocers, etc., amounted to 168, and the following articles of food which were found to be unwholesome or unsound were surrendered and destroyed.



Beans .....	2 tins	Tinned Ham .....	15 lbs.
Beetroot .....	4 „	Tinned Jellied Veal .....	6 „
Condensed Milk .....	14 „	Sauce .....	1 bot.
Cream .....	3 „	Pickles .....	6 bots.
Fruit .....	27 „	Chutney .....	1 bot.
Herrings .....	3 „	Jam .....	34 lbs.
Lobster .....	2 „	Paste .....	1 pot.
Peas .....	2 „	Mincemeat .....	1 pot.
Salmon .....	5 „	Cheese .....	2 pkts.
Tomatoes .....	5 „	Trifle .....	2 pkts.
Tongue .....	1 „	Xmas Pudding .....	1

### PLACES IN THE DISTRICT WHERE FOOD IS PREPARED FOR SALE.

Fried Fish and Chip Shops .....	8
Butchers making Sausages, Faggots, etc.....	5
Ice Cream Shops .....	9

To these premises 113 visits of inspection were made.

### BAKEHOUSES.

During the year 46 visits of inspection were paid to bakehouses, of which there are six in the area. At two of these public baking is carried on. A good standard of cleanliness is maintained at these premises.

### INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND DISINFECTION.

All notified cases of infectious diseases are visited by the Sanitary Inspector as soon as possible. Individual record cards are kept, and on these are entered particulars such as occupation or school of patient, contacts, sources of water and milk supplies, dates of onset of disease, sanitary condition of premises, date of disinfection, etc. Instructions are given to persons in charge of patient as to the prevention of the spread of infection. Infected premises and clothing are disinfected at the termination of illness, on removal to hospital, etc. Rooms are disinfected by spraying with disinfectant and fumigation with formaldehyde gas. Infected bedclothes, etc. are placed in a bath containing a disinfectant solution of appropriate strength. The number of disinfections carried out by the Sanitary Inspector during the year amounted to 87.





